

# **WAYS TO TEACH WITH BOOKS** **IN THE CLASSROOM**

1. To teach **holidays and seasonal activities**
2. To **build a sense of community**—particularly at the beginning of the year
3. To teach **interpersonal** and **interpersonal relationships**—particularly at the beginning of the year.
4. To teach students about **thinking, learning, and the brain**
5. To **create interest** in classroom activities such as
  - a. What's In the Sack?
  - b. Talent Shows
  - c. Field Trips
  - d. Class Picture Day
  - e. Class Elections
  - f. Class Field Day
6. To do **author studies**- Some of my favorites are:
  - a. Patricia Polacco
  - b. Mike Thaler (*Black Lagoon Books*)
  - c. Jan Brett
  - d. Mem Fox
  - e. Mary Pop Osborne
  - f. Seymour Simon (expository)
  - g. Ron Roy
  - h. Tomie dePaola
  - i. Dr. Seuss
  - j. Shel Silverstein
7. To use in a **drama center**
  - a. Plays
  - b. Act out stories and poems
  - c. Reader's Theaters  
([www.readinglady.com](http://www.readinglady.com))
8. For **teacher read-alouds** in third grade, some of **my favorites** are:
  - a. *Charlotte's Web (a childhood favorite)* –E.B. White
  - b. *The Hundred Dresses*-Eleanor Estes
  - c. *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*—
  - d. *The Sing of the Beaver*
  - e. *The Year of Miss Agnes*-Kirkpatrick hill
  - f. *Gooney Bird green*-Lois Lowry
  - g. *The Best Christmas pageant Ever*—
  - h. *Sideways Stories From Wayside School*—

9. To use in **reading groups** to teach:
  - a. Thinking Strategies: predict, connect, summarize, infer, question, etc.
  - b. Fix-up Strategies (word and meaning)—see handout
  - c. Decoding, vocabulary, fluency
10. To use in **literature circles**
11. To use in a **listening center** (Disney and other books and tapes at garage sales, DI, Savers, and the swap meet)
12. To use in an **independent reading center**
  - a. Content area (Week 1)
  - b. Author study (Week 2)
  - c. Seasonal/Holiday (Week 3)
  - d. Free Choice (Week 4)
13. To use in an **English center** to teach:
  - a. Capitalization
  - b. Punctuation
  - c. Grammar
  - d. Sentences/Paragraphs
  - e. Parts of Speech (Ruth Heller Books)
14. To use in a **big book center** (could be narrative or expository)
15. For **reading motivation**
  - a. *Thank you, Mr. Faulker—Patricia Palooco*
  - b. *Amber on the Mountain- Tony Johnston*
  - c. *The bracelet- Elizabeth Ballard*
  - d. *When I Was Young in the Mountains- Cynthia Rylant*
  - e. *The dance Richard Paul Evans*
16. To teach the following things in **writing**:
  - a. Motivation
  - b. Writing Modes and Genres (including Caldecott and Newbery books)
  - c. The Writing Process
  - d. 6+1 Traits
  - e. Spelling
  - f. Handwriting
  - g. English Skills (capitalization, punctuation, grammar, parts of speech, etc.)
17. To **introduce** or **teach** any content area lesson/unit
  - a. Science
  - b. Social Studies
  - c. Math
  - d. Computers
  - e. Health and Safety
  - f. Art, Music, and Drama

## **Let's Go On A Book Walk!**

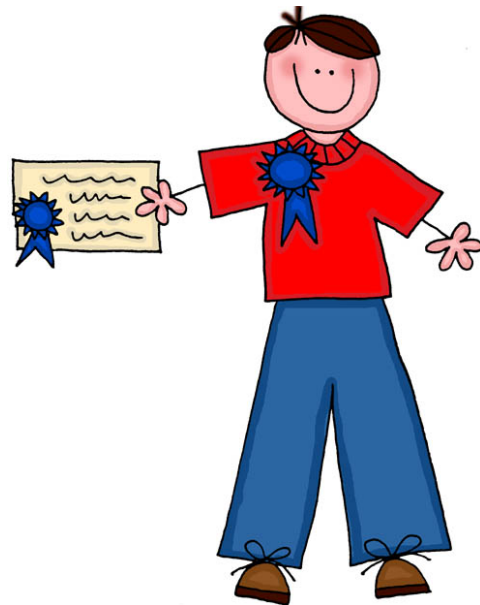
1. Look at and discuss the **front cover**:
  - a. Title
  - b. Author
  - c. Illustrator
  - d. Illustrations
2. Open the book up and **find**:
  - a. Publisher
  - b. ISBN #
  - c. Copyright Date
3. Look at the **dedication page**. Read the author's and illustrator's dedications.
4. Check the **table of contents** to see what's in the book.
5. See if your book has a **glossary** (important words) or an **index** (specific subjects) at the back of it.
6. Look at the **chapter titles** (narrative texts) or the **section heading** (expository texts). Choose your **favorite** one and **share a prediction** of what that chapter or section will be about.
7. Choose your **favorite illustration or photograph**. Share it. **Tell why** it's your favorite.
8. **Share any connections** you've made with the book during the book walk.
9. Discuss any **questions** that have come to you.
10. What Genre?

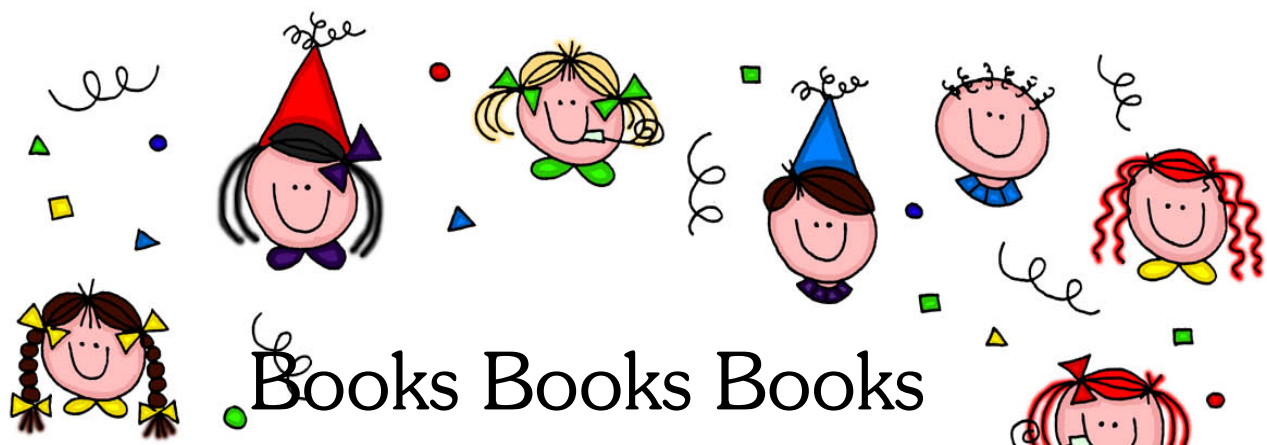
## WHEN YOU FINISH YOUR LISTENING TAPE

1. Talk about the **characters** in the story.
2. Discuss any **connections** you made while reading.
3. Ask any **questions** that came to you while you were reading.
4. Discuss any **words** you didn't know the meaning of.
5. Talk about what happened in the story - **summarize the plot.**
6. Tell your **favorite part** of the story.
7. Discuss the **problem** in the story and how it was solved.
8. Talk about the **setting** of the story (when and Where it took place).
9. Discuss other **narrative text features.**

- a. Illustrations
- b. Title Page
- c. Copyright

- d. Dedication Page
- e Publisher
- f. Author/Illustrator





# Books Books Books

You can teach almost  
anything  
with a children's book

By Chris C Carrigan

FACS conference 2006

Special thanks to Debbie Carter  
Morgan Elementary School

